

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Dennis Danella on January 21, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently amended). A multi-drawer file cabinet comprising:

a first cabinet including a first upper shell portion having a top section and two downwardly extending side sections, a first rear shell portion coupled with the first upper shell portion, a first base coupled with the two side sections and the first rear shell portion to form a first shell assembly, a first interior casing positioned within the first shell assembly, and a first drawer assembly slidably coupled to the first interior casing, wherein the top section includes a top surface having a peripheral edge, the peripheral edge of the top surface having a first perimeter, and the first cabinet having a drawer opening defined by an edge; and

a second cabinet including a second upper shell portion having a top section and two downwardly extending side sections, a second rear shell portion coupled with the second upper shell portion, a second base coupled with the two side sections and the second rear shell portion to form a second shell assembly, a second interior casing positioned within the second shell assembly, and a second drawer assembly slidably

coupled to the second interior casing, the second base and including a lower surface and a sidewall extending downwardly from a the lower surface of the second base, the sidewall including a peripheral edge, the peripheral edge of the sidewall having a second perimeter, wherein the second perimeter is larger than the first perimeter, wherein the sidewall of the second cabinet base fits around the peripheral edge of the top surface of the first cabinet, and wherein the second base of the second cabinet is in contact with the top surface of the first cabinet.

Claim 2 (Currently amended). The multi-drawer file cabinet as recited in claim 1, wherein the sidewall includes a top edge that is adjacent to the lower surface of the second base, wherein the distance between the top edge of the sidewall and the peripheral edge of the sidewall is equal to the distance between the peripheral edge of the top surface of the first cabinet and the edge of the drawer opening of the first interior casing.

Claim 3 (Currently amended). The multi-drawer file cabinet as recited in claim 1, further comprising at least one bumper mounted to the lower surface of the second base.

Claim 4 (Currently amended). The multi-drawer file cabinet as recited in claim 1, further comprising an accessory holder including a base, the accessory holder base having a sidewall with a peripheral edge, the peripheral edge of the accessory holder sidewall having a third perimeter, the top section of the second upper shell portion including a top surface having a peripheral edge, the peripheral edge of the top section of the second cabinet including a fourth perimeter, wherein the third perimeter is larger

than a ~~the fourth~~ perimeter of a ~~top surface of the second cabinet~~ so that the sidewall of the accessory holder fits around the peripheral edge of the top surface of the second cabinet.

Claim 6 (Currently amended). The multi-drawer file cabinet as recited in claim ~~5~~ 1, wherein at least one of the second upper shell portion and the second rear shell portion has at least one tab extending from a bottom edge thereof, and the second base having at least one slot defined therein for accepting the at least one tab.

Claim 7 (Currently amended). The multi-drawer file cabinet as recited in claim 6, wherein ~~each of the upper shell portion has opposing~~ side sections of the second upper shell portion have with at least one tab extending from ~~each~~ a bottom edge thereof, wherein each of the tabs extend generally inward toward the opposing side section of the second upper shell portion.

Claim 8 (Currently amended). The multi-drawer file cabinet as recited in claim 6, wherein the at least one slot includes a fitted groove.

Claim 9 (Currently amended). The multi-drawer file cabinet as recited in claim 8, wherein the at least one tab has a mounting hole defined therein, wherein the second base has a corresponding mounting hole defined therein, and wherein a fastening mechanism extends between the mounting holes to secure the second upper shell portion with the second base.

Claim 10 (Currently amended). The multi-drawer file cabinet as recited in claim ~~5~~ 1, wherein at least a portion of the first interior casing is formed of a non-flammable thermal insulating material.

Claim 11 (Currently amended). The multi-drawer file cabinet as recited in claim 5 1, wherein the second base includes a top surface, wherein a lip extends from a the top surface of the second base to engage a front side of the second interior casing.

Claim 12 (Currently amended). The multi-drawer file cabinet as recited in claim 5 1, wherein at least one of the first drawer assembly and the second drawer assembly includes a front drawer assembly, a frame, and a pair of opposing slide members, wherein the front drawer assembly is coupled with the frame, and the opposing slide members are slidably coupled with the frame to allow the drawer assembly to move relative to the corresponding interior casing.

Claim 13 (Currently amended). The multi-drawer file cabinet as recited in claim 12, wherein the opposing slide members are disposed between a pair of outer tracks formed in the corresponding interior casing and a pair of drawer tracks positioned on the frame.

Claim 14 (Currently amended). The multi-drawer file cabinet as recited in claim 13, wherein the outer tracks formed in the corresponding interior casing each include an outer groove and an inner groove, wherein the inner groove is defined in the outer groove, and wherein at least one of the slide members have a stop extending therefrom that extends into the inner groove formed in the corresponding interior casing.

Claim 21 (Currently amended). The multi-drawer file cabinet as recited in claim 20, wherein the drawer head includes a ledge positioned below at least a portion of the flat portion of the cam, and wherein the corresponding interior casing has a recess formed therein for receiving the locking leg of the cam.

Claim 34 (Currently amended). The multi-drawer file cabinet as recited in claim 21, wherein the recess formed in the corresponding interior casing is configured to receive the locking leg when the flat portion of the cam is in contact with the ledge.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James O. Hansen whose telephone number is 571-272-6866. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday between 8-4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, J. Allen Shriver [Acting] can be reached on 571-272-6698. The fax phone number for the organization where this application is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/James O. Hansen/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3637

JOH
January 25, 2010